JOSEPH R. MURDOCK

The name of Hon. Joseph R. Murdock of Charleston and Heber City is synonymous with the development of irrigation interests in the West. He has contributed to public progress along various lines and in no field have his labors been more far-reaching and resultant than in behalf of the reclamation of the arid lands through the conservation and distribution of the water supply of this section of the country. Mr. Murdock's efforts in this connection alone entitle him to rank not only with the cap-

MURDOCK, Royal Joseph, Bishop of the Provo 4th Ward, Utah Stake, Utah, from 1924 to 1930+, was born April 19, 1885, in Charleston, Utah, a son of Joseph R. Murdock and Margaret Wright. He was baptized Sept. 15, 1893, ordained a Seventy July 21, 1907, by B. H. Roberts, filled a mission to the Northern States in 1908-1909, was ordained a High Priest Sept. 19, 1921, by John Swenson, and a Bishop Nov. 23, 1924, by Jos. F. Smith, jun.



tains of industry, but with the benefactors of the race. The story of his life is an interesting one—the record of earnest endeavor crowned with successful achievement.

Mr. Murdock was born in Salt Lake City, August 11, 1858, his parents being N. C. and Sarah M. (Barney) Murdock. In 1864, N. C. Murdock removed to Charleston, Wasatch County, Utah.

Joseph R. Murdock was reared to young manhood upon his father's farm and was educated in the schools of Charleston, supplemented by study in the Brigham Young Academy, now the Brigham Young University. In 1872 he became associated with his father in farming and stock raising and carried on the business extensively. They also established the first creamery in Charleston and further extended the scope of their activities. They opened a general merchandise store in 1875, their trade steadily growing into a business which was incorporated in 1890, at which time Joseph R. Murdock was elected the manager of the enterprise.

There is no man more widely or favorably known as a representative of the irrigation interests of the West. He has done more beyond a doubt to further irrigation than has any other one man in the state of Utah, or perhaps in the West. He organized the Provo Reservoir Company, of which he is president. This project now supplies water to 10,000 acres of land and

has sufficient water for 10,000 acres additional. The project was developed at a cost of a million dollars. The main office of the company is in the Knight Building at Provo. Mr. Murdock also is the president of the Bank of Heber City, which does a business amounting to one-half million dollars annually, and he is the president of the Sugar Centrifugal Discharging Company of Salt Lake City, manufacturers of sugar machinery and employing about 30 men.

In 1878, Mr. Murdock was married to Miss Margaret Wright, a daughter of William and Jemima (Dands) Wright. They became parents of 11 children.

In 1903, Mr. Murdock removed with his family to Heber and was there, in 1905, called to the presidency of the Wasatch Stake, which he has since filled. In politics, Mr. Murdock is a Democrat and was a staunch supporter of President Wilson and his League of Nations policy. He served three terms as county commissioner of Wasatch County and was a member of the constitutional convention. He was also a member of the lower house of the Utah Legislature during the first and second sessions of the general assembly, and in the fall of 1900 he was elected state senator. During that session he was the father of the dairy bill, which was enacted into law, and he served on many important committees. He gave most earnest and thought consideration to all the vital questions wh came up for settlement during his legislative career, and left the impress of his individuality and ability upon the assembly enactments. He still owns and maintains his home in Heber and also, because of his business relations there, he has a home in Provo, he and his family dividing their time between the two cities.

The life record of Joseph R. Murdock is indeed a creditable one. His life has been actuated by high purposes and earnest endeavor, productive of splendid results, and among Utah's most useful and honored citizens Joseph R. Murdock is named.

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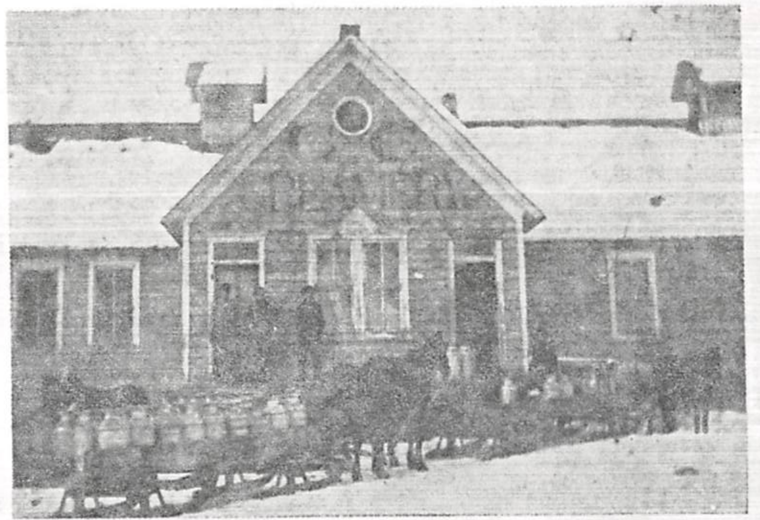
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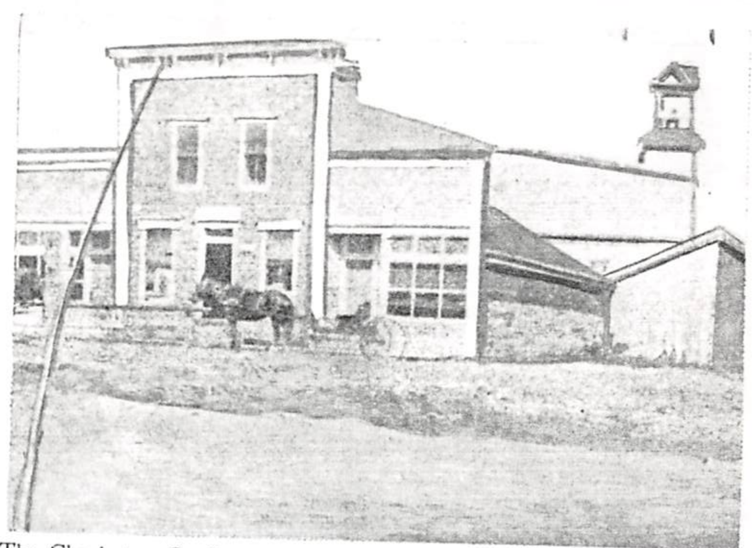


The Charleston Co-Operative Creamery begun in 1894 by George Daybell and later expanded to this building by Mr. Daybell and Joseph R. Murdock.

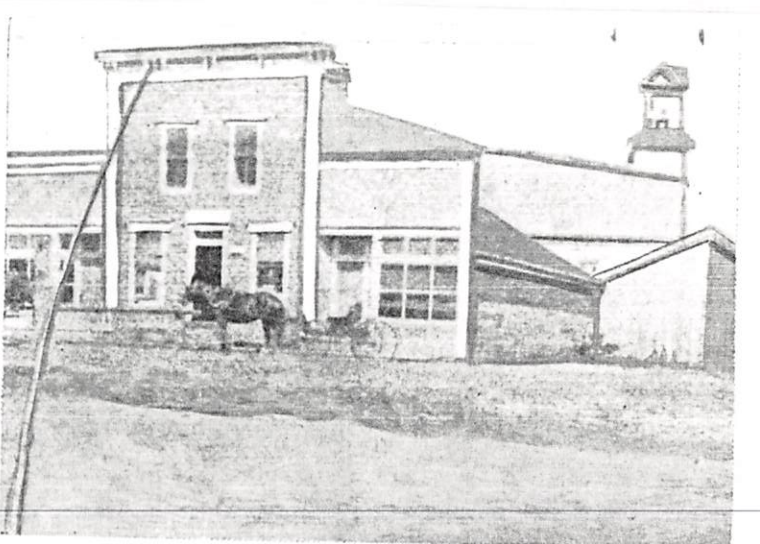
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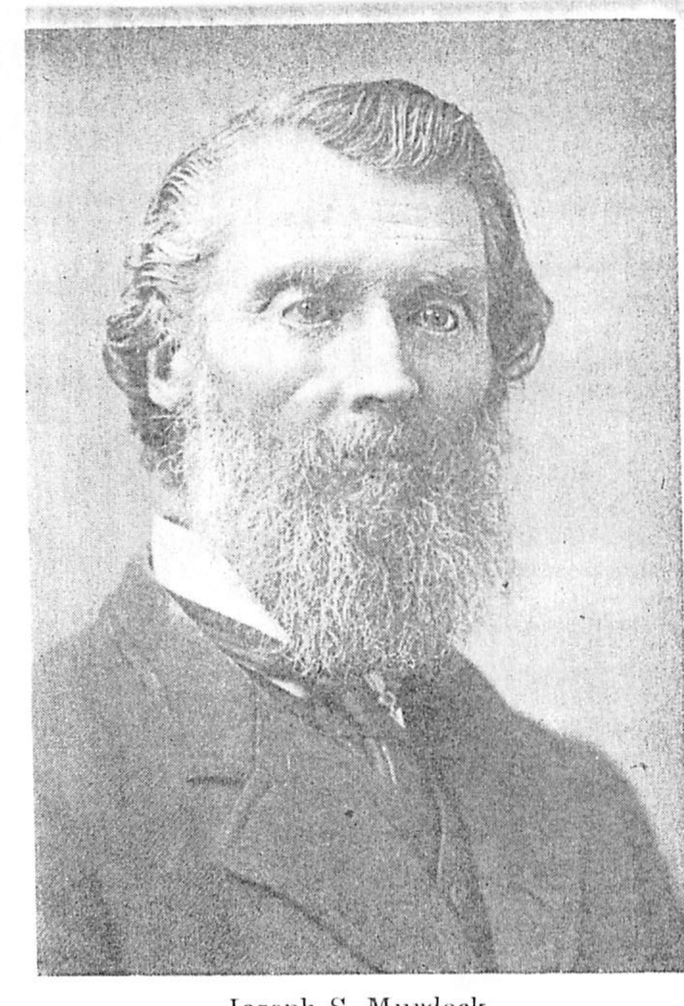
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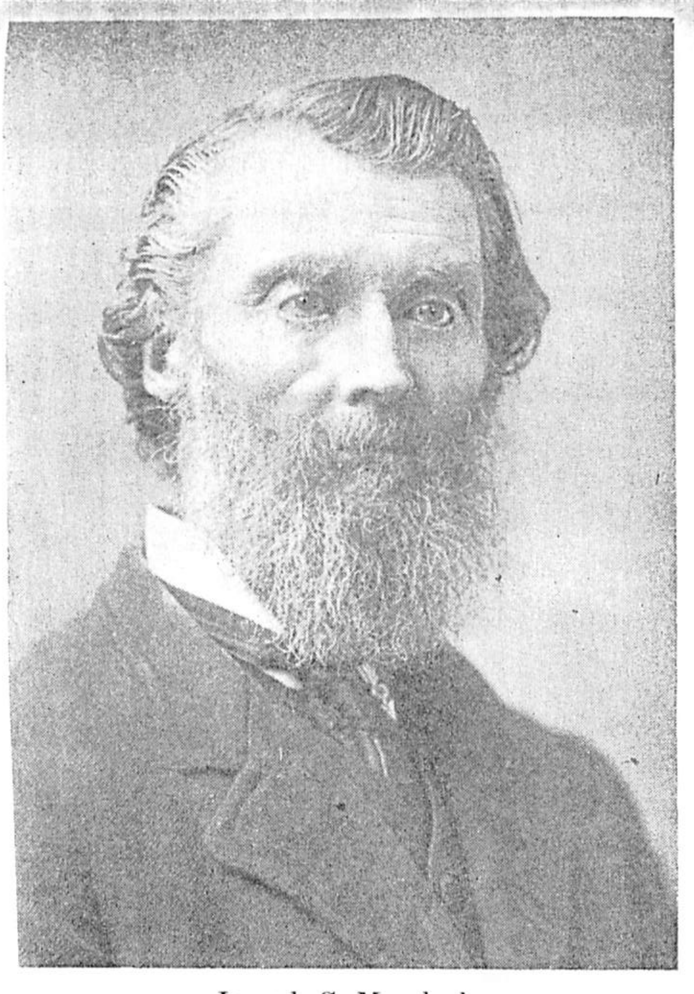
The Charleston Co-Operative Store, established by Joseph R. Murdock. This was the first co-op store in the valley and grew to have the largest business volume of any store in the county at that time. 998



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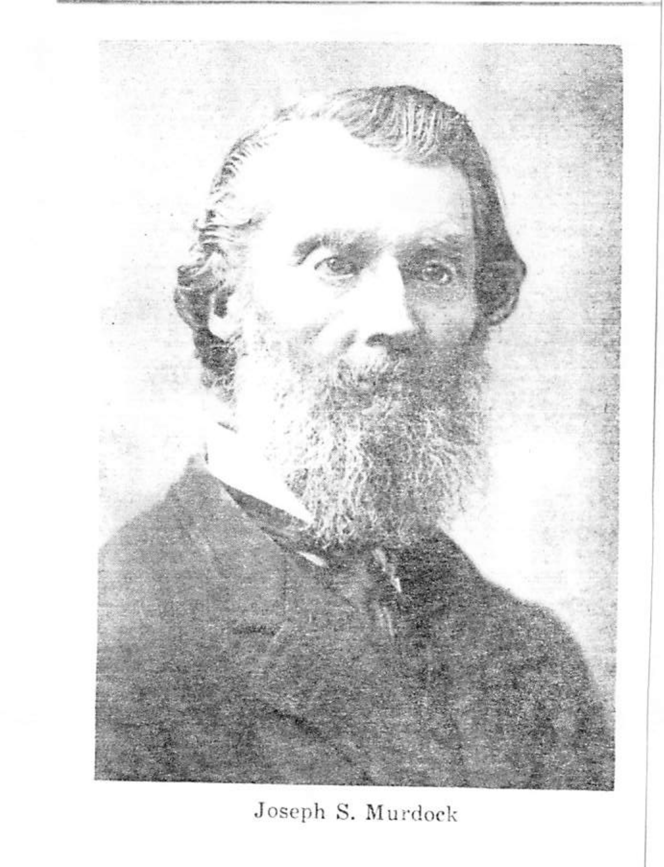
Joseph S. Murdock



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